



CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

24-HOUR REPORT

9 SEPTEMBER 2021

(U) CALIFORNIA

(U) Glendale – Man to Plead Guilty to Federal Hate Crime for Attack

(U) William Stepanyan, 23, will plead guilty to a hate crime charge after he attacked five people at a Turkish restaurant last year while making death threats, federal prosecutors announced. Stepanyan is expected to enter his guilty plea in the coming weeks, according to the US Attorney's Office for the Central District of California. On 4 November 2020, Stepanyan sent a text message to his co-defendant, Tujunga resident Harutyun Harry Chalikyan, saying that he planned to go "hunting for Turks," according to the plea agreement.

SOURCE: 8 September 2021, [Los Angeles Times](#)

(U) Los Angeles – Former EDD Employee to Plead Guilty to COVID-Related Scam

(U) A former California Employment Development Department (EDD) employee has agreed to plead guilty to a federal criminal charge for causing nearly 200 fraudulent COVID-related unemployment relief claims to be filed in other people's names, resulting in more than \$1.6 million in ill-gotten gains, the Justice Department announced. From April to October 2020, Gabriela Llerenas filed and caused the filing with EDD of fraudulent unemployment insurance benefits that falsely asserted the named claimants were self-employed independent contractors – often identifying them as cake decorators or event attendants – who were negatively affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

SOURCE: 8 September 2021, [US DoJ](#)

(U) Salinas – 18 Tons of Illegal Contaminated Cannabis Destroyed

(U) According to a press release by the Monterey County District Attorney's, 18 tons of illegal cannabis, much of it contaminated, has been destroyed by the Monterey County Cannabis Enforcement Unit. They have been targeting unlicensed cannabis cultivations in northern, central, and southern parts of the county. In the last 30 days, nine separate operations were carried out by the multi-agency unit. During their investigation, they found much of the illegally grown cannabis was contaminated.

SOURCE: 7 September 2021, [KSBW8](#)

(U) NATIONAL

(U) District of Columbia – Ukrainian National Indicted for Selling Hacked PC Accounts

(U) Washington – The US Department of Justice announced the extradition of a Ukrainian national from Poland on charges of selling access to compromised computer systems via a specialized marketplace on the dark web. Glib Oleksandr Ivanov-Tolpintsev, 28, of Chernivtsi, Ukraine, stands accused of creating a botnet of compromised computers across the world. According to court documents, for more than four years, the suspect operated this botnet in order to execute brute-force attacks that decrypted and guessed login credentials for computers across the world.

SOURCE: 8 September 2021, [The Record](#)

UNCLASSIFIED

(U) District of Columbia – FBI Releases Video of Suspect Placing Pipe Bombs Before 6 January Riot

(U) Washington – The FBI released new video from its investigation into the still-unidentified suspect who allegedly planted pipe bombs outside the headquarters of the Democratic National Committee (DNC) and Republican National Committee the night before a pro-Trump mob stormed the US Capitol on 6 January. The video, which includes a virtual map showing the route the suspect walked around the Capitol Hill neighborhood on the night of 5 January, shows the suspect pacing with a backpack in front of a row of houses. Another video shows the suspect sitting down on a bench outside the front of the DNC. SOURCE: 8 September 2021, [ABC News](#)

(U) Puerto Rico – CBP Seizes 566 Pounds of Cocaine and Apprehends 25 Undocumented Migrants

(U) Aguadilla – US Customs and Border Protection's Border Patrol and Air and Marine Operations agents, collaborated with other law enforcement partners to seize 566 pounds of cocaine and arrest the five smugglers, as well as apprehending 14 migrants from Haiti and 11 migrants from the Dominican Republic, during three separate events in Mayaguez, Cabo Rojo and Carolina. SOURCE: 8 September 2021, [CBP](#)

(U) INTERNATIONAL

(U) Cameroon – Four Men Sentenced to Death for Attack on School

(U) Yaounde – A court in Cameroon has sentenced four people to death for their roles in a shooting attack on a school last year that killed seven children and wounded 12 others, according to a court document. A military court found the men guilty of terrorism, assassination, and attempted secession. SOURCE: 8 September 2021, [Reuters](#)

(U) Kenya – Tigray Forces Kill Around 120 Civilians

(U) Nairobi – Local officials in Ethiopia alleged that Tigray forces have killed more than 120 civilians in recent days following battlefield losses, in what would be one of the deadliest massacres in the East African nation. Sewunet Wubalem, administrator for the Dabat district in Ethiopia's northern Amhara region, said that 123 bodies had been recovered and more were expected to be found. SOURCE: 8 September 2021, [ABC News](#)

(U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.

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